

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



Hands-on educational activities at the America Recycles Day celebration included paper recycling and spin art reusing cereal boxes, making for a fun-filled day.

***MONTHLY REPORT
NOVEMBER 2001***



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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2002 began July 1, 2001.)

FACILITY	Nov FY 02	FY 02 Total	Nov FY 01	Nov FY 00
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	7,205 tons	33,683 tons	7,364 tons	5,121 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽⁴⁾	20,878 tons	100,073 tons	13,817 tons	10,908 tons
American Ash Recycling ⁽²⁾	N/A	N/A	2,809 tons	2,785 tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽³⁾	51,924 tons	258,581 tons	49,971 tons	40,756 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	14,241 tons	29,083 tons	14,973 tons	14,943 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

⁽³⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. For FY02 these tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the December and June monthly reports.

⁽⁴⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled at Clean Rock or other locations.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During November, program staff:

- Completed final testing of the new on-line hauler billing system, held final transition meetings with Finance, agreed to go “live” the first week of December, completed transition of hauler billing function from Finance to DSWS.
- Completed FY01 comprehensive accounting of County-wide tonnage flows and recycling rate calculation spreadsheet.
- Calibrated Rate Model to FY01 tonnage review noted above and entered revised recycling forecasts.
- Calibrated Fiscal Health Spreadsheet to the FY01 revenues and year-end financial work papers.
- Coordinated creation of master budget spreadsheet for the FY03-08 period, prepared various required budget presentations.
- Prepared and updated three Program (performance) Measures for the Division.
- Continued processing all non-residential appeals, advanced 53 to completion.

- Handled routine level of property tax billing inquiries.
- Updated and reported service household counts for the month.
- Researched accounts in the database for corrections in the premise addresses, land use codes, gross floor area and other database fields.
- Sent data advisories to State Department of Assessment and Taxation (SDAT).
- Reviewed database changes made by SDAT.
- Updated the new street maps in the central office.
- Determined billing categories for newly occupied properties.
- Received raw reports from condominium field inspections books and began compiling into an Access database.
- Continued work on Variable Rate Study; held Task Force Meeting; prepared and presented briefings to Directors, SWAC and T&E Committee.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – FIG met Tuesday, November 13, at the Gothic Dairy Barn; 11 FIG members, 4 County staff and 3 guests were in attendance. The committee discussed Air Deposition Zone Sampling, Chiswell renovations, Facility complaints and received Dickerson Facility updates. The next scheduled FIG meeting is set for January 15, 2001 at the Gothic Barn.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC met Tuesday, November 6, in the EOB, 6th Floor Conference Room; 12 SWAC members, 8 County staff and 1 guest were in attendance. The Committee discussed Ten-Year Solid Waste Management Plan Amendments and the SWAC Mandate. DSWS staff gave a presentation to the Committee on the Budget Development for Fiscal Year 2003.

SWAC also met Tuesday, November 13, in the EOB, 6th Floor Conference Room; 10 SWAC members, 4 County staff and 1 guest were in attendance. The Committee received a presentation on the Variable Rate Feasibility Study.

SWAC had their annual meeting with the County Executive on November 27, 2001.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of November. There were two holidays during the month, Veterans Day, a working holiday and Thanksgiving, a holiday slide; both weeks passed without customer confusion.

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the past 16 weeks are as follows:

8/6/01 through 8/31/01	9.10 lbs. per household
9/3/01 through 9/28/01	10.08 lbs. per household
10/1/01 through 10/26/01	11.10 lbs. per household
10/29/01 through 11/23/01	10.83 lbs. per household

Contractor Performance – In November DSWS received 461 complaints; this represents a 20.79% decrease from November 2000, which had 582 complaints. Eleven complaints were not promptly resolved by the contractors, but all were corrected by the County and charges (fines) were assessed to the companies.

Enforcement Actions – Five citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Two citations	Not having a valid collectors tag attached	\$1,250
One citation	Not having a valid collectors license	\$500
One citation	Improperly stored and/or permitted solid waste to accumulate	\$500
One citation	Did collect or remove solid waste, which was set out for collection at curb without consent	\$100

Four NOV's issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Three NOV's	Improperly stored and/or permitted solid waste to accumulate
One NOV	Failed to provide and maintain an approved container for the storage of solid waste.

Customer Service – DSWS received 7,746 incoming calls and 206 follow up calls were made for quality check. There were 1,239 blue bins delivered and 233 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service Staff.

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Latex Paint Management – DSWS continues to promote home management of latex paint. Over 3,400 packets of Waste Paint Hardener and brochures outlining proper latex paint home management techniques were handed out over the calendar year 2001 at HHW events.

Bicycle Recycling – No bicycles were recycled this month. Some groups are expressing interest in picking up bikes, but there are no definitive agreements at this time.

Computer Recycling – Approximately 27 tons of computers were recycled in November under the computer recycling program.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities – "Green Man" column ongoing in the Gazette, appears in digest form at greenman.askDEP.com and at www.gazette.net. In addition, Eco Minutes from the Green Man continues to air weekdays on WARW 94.7 FM., tips are also found on www.classicrock947.com.

Planning continues for an in-vessel composting system for the Department of Corrections to handle approximately 1,500 pounds of food waste daily. The program may occur in two phases, with a smaller manually operated system serving as a pilot, followed by a full-scale in-vessel system to accommodate all of the food waste generated.

Participated in America Recycles Day on November 17; sold compost bins and provided hands-on training in backyard and worm composting.

Collaborated with the Potomac Conservancy to obtain a Chesapeake Bay Trust grant to develop demonstration gardens, signage, and literature featuring home composting, grasscycling and proper lawn care and alternative (non-turf) landscaping. Demonstration sites will include the Audubon Naturalist Society headquarters at Woodend Sanctuary, where the new demonstration areas will be integrated into the existing composting display. Work is expected to begin in late winter 2002.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – Two events were held in November, both at the Transfer Station since the NIH event had to be canceled due to security concerns; 705 and 450 patrons attended the two events, respectively.

Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program – One SQG/Ecowise event was held in November with only 4 patrons attending.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEMS Tracking of RRF Operations – The Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) functioned properly tracking the operations of the facility independently of Covanta's monthly reports. The CEMS on Unit #3 recorded Carbon Monoxide (CO) spikes on November 4 at 2300 and November 16 at 1100 indicating shutdown of the unit. The CEMS on Unit #2 recorded Carbon Monoxide (CO) spike on November 28 at 1000 indicating shutdown of that unit.

The CEMS-web site is functioning satisfactorily; however, the problem of displaying the data from the midnight hour (1 hour of data) remains unsolved. Staff is still working on the problem.

In the first week of November, the set of nine CEMS CD-ROM's was updated to include CEMS data up to October 31, 2001. Copies of the CD-ROM's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and will be distributed to DSWS staff, SWAC and FIG.

The annual stack-test for the RRF was conducted from October 31 through November 8. No problems were encountered. A draft report is expected in January.

On November 20, MDE conducted a Public Hearing on the RRF Title V Air Permit at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Four members of the public from the Dickerson area attended the meeting. In the last week of November, MDE indicated to the County that the Title V permit will be issued soon.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology –

In November, a new blower was installed for the evaporator. The Leachate Thermal Treatment System (LTTS) operated for approximately 22 days, evaporating on average, 7.8 gallons of leachate per minute. BENTECH is still pursuing efforts to implement the electric component of the facility.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – The fieldwork for the RRF Non-Air Media Monitoring Program was conducted during the second week of November. As recommended by the Subcommittee, farm-pond fish, hay and cow's milk were sampled. The samples were sent to the laboratory for analysis of dioxins and trace metals. ENSR will submit a draft report in February 2002.

The pre-operational phase baseline data for this program was obtained in 1994-95 prior to the start of operations of the RRF. The RRF started operations in Summer 1995. The operational phase data was obtained in 1996-98, after one year of operations at the facility. Because the focus of this program is to track the pollutant concentrations in the same media to compare with the baseline data, same species of fish that existed in the farm-ponds during the baseline program (1994-95) were collected in this program.

During the November FIG meeting, they suggested that other species of fish in farm-ponds be collected including catfish in future programs. The County plans to do this in the next cycle of the program (Fall 2004), which will constitute a baseline for the new species of fish.

Contractual Work – ENSR submitted a draft report on the RRF Epidemiological Study. DSWS reviewed the report and provided copies to the County's Health Officer for review.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – The Division's celebration of America Recycles Day was held on Saturday, November 17th. This year, the event was held across two locations, the Recycling Center and the parking lot and field in front of 850 Hungerford Drive. Many

interactive displays and activities were held on the field, and shuttle Ride-On buses took people to the Recycling Center for tours of the facility in actual operation. Estimates are that approximately 1,200 people attended the event. The door-to-door canvassing effort to educate residents about the mixed paper recycling program continues. Additional canvassers are also being recruited.

MCPS recycling rate: 10%

During the month of November, a transition was in progress in a change of recycling contractors. This recycling rate only includes the amount of recyclable materials delivered to the County's MRF by the former contractor.

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – The business recycling handbook is being revised and updated. Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs for businesses and respond to complaints. Three notices of violation (NOV) were issued to businesses in November; 2 for solid waste violations, 1 for no recycling program. Staff participated in the America Recycles Day event on November 17th and spoke to several businesses concerned about business recycling.

Multi-Family Recycling – Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support. This month staff received a large number of complaints and requests for recycling information from residents of local municipalities. Staff responded with information and materials to assist them and support them in their recycling programs. Staff completed the information gathering surveys to multi-family properties. With the information gathered, staff has identified those properties that need immediate attention and have started to correct problems.

Mixed Paper Recycling – Staff continues monitoring the amounts of mixed paper being recycled in each area to troubleshoot and provide additional education to those low performance areas. Canvassing is underway in Area 7. Canvassers are equipped with mixed paper recycling information and paper shopping bags containing samples of the different types of mixed paper items that can be recycled. They provide a quick demonstration using this kit. They also ask residents to sign a recycling pledge stating that they will recycle as much as possible.

Volunteer Activities – For the month of November, Volunteers contributed to the following activities:

- Two HHW collections at the Shady Grove Transfer Station.
- 22 volunteers assisted at the Division's America Recycles Day Celebration.
- The Volunteer Program Manager gave 6 vermiculture/composting sessions to about 180 students at Piney Branch Middle School.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot – The Potomac toter pilot continues to be monitored closely. After eleven weeks, we have collected 194,940 lbs. of mixed paper. This represents an

average weight per house of 21.88 lbs. This same route was monitored for 37 weeks prior to the implementation of the toter pilot and the average weight per house was 13.99 lbs. The toter pilot has increased the capture rate of paper by 56.40%.

Tubgrinding Pilot – Tubgrinding of screened reject material at the Yard Trim Composting Facility is ongoing.

Ash Recycling Pilot – The ash recycling pilot program ended in June. The Authority received proposals for a long-term ash recycling program on September 19. The proposals are being reviewed.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – For most of the month the Facility ran with all 3 units on line with the following exceptions:

1. Unit #3 was down for 18.5 hours on November 4 and 5 for a grate bar replacement,
2. Unit #3 was down for 45 hours on November 16, 17 and 18 because of a shortage of ash containers,
3. Unit #2 was taken off line on November 28 to begin its planned semiannual outage.

Beginning October 30 the Facility conducted its annual air emissions testing. The testing concluded the second week of November. Preliminary results indicate the Facility is meeting its emission requirements.

Installation of a new radiation detection system was completed. The new technology has identified radiation in the waste at very low levels. For instance cat litter and electronic appliance containers have set off the alarms. New procedures are required to handle the material once it is identified in the waste. DSWS requested and received assistance from SWAC and FIG regarding this matter. An ad hoc committee was established and meetings are being planned to discuss the issues.

There were no operating curtailments from Mirant and no turbine/generator trips during the month.

CSX rail movements were troublesome early in the month, but improved in the last two weeks of the month.

There were no air or water quality excursions during the month.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Several Covanta and County staff members participated in the Title V Air permit hearings. MDE informed us the permit was issued November 30.
- Completed Annual air emissions testing.
- Reviewed with MDE responses to radiation detection.
- Submitted October Potable water report to MDE.
- Amended the RRF Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan.

- Updated County CD-ROMs with air emission data.

Approximately 13 visitors toured the Facility including County volunteers and a news reporter.

Materials Recovery Facility - Approximately 1,576 tons of commingled material were shipped out after processing, and approximately 5,629 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

The contract for replacement of the processing equipment should be signed by the end of December.

Oaks Landfill – The County is reviewing the Phase I contractor's request for final release of retainage. The construction contractor has completed all work and documentation. SCS Engineers is preparing closure certification documents to be submitted to the MDE.

SCS Engineers is continuing with design plans for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance.

The County is reviewing proposals to assess the feasibility of constructing a gas-to-energy facility, should the County opt to do this directly at the Oaks Landfill.

Gude Landfill – The County is reviewing design documents submitted by URS for the repair of several poorly drained areas at the landfill.

Beantown Dump – DSWS is reviewing the protocol for installing the gas venting system at the old Beantown dump site. The County continues to work on executing agreements for the installation of gas extraction wells with property owners. DSWS submitted a task order for the installation of methane gas detectors in businesses on and near the former footprint of the dump.

Transfer Station- During November, Covanta shipped via rail 47,730 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the Resource Recovery Facility, 4,684 more tons than shipped in November 2000.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

DSWS reviewed a preliminary design scheme for a roof for the HHW compound and transmitted its comments back to the design contractor. DSWS reviewed with Facilities and Services the feasibility of using the existing contract for the construction.

Three existing roof fans were replaced with new, higher volume fans.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – Work continues on the Chiswell farm rehabilitation. DFS extended the deadline for submitting long-term lease proposals to December 31, 2001.

Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan – The 10-Year Master Plan Expenditure Projection was presented and discussed at the November 19th T & E Subcommittee.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – The Dickerson Yard Trim Facility received 14,241 tons of leaves for composting. Cleaning and modification of the three stormwater ponds is in progress and will be completed by year end.

Bagging Operation – In November, no bagged Leafgro was produced at the facility and 12,004 bags were shipped to distributors.

Linden Farm Renovations – Under the signed bagging agreement, the County is to renovate the Feed Barn and Bank Barn. Dean Fitzgerald, the contractor, started the renovation work in June. The first phase of the work will be completed in December 2001.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia - During the month of November, about 16,891 tons of ash residue and 3,987 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 329 tons of rubble were recycled at Clean Earth (formerly Clean Rock). Maintenance on the ash container fleet, including replacement of corroded side panels, continues at the Collier Rail Yard near Petersburg, Virginia. Prototype, corrosion-resistant containers and coatings continue to be evaluated.

Ash Recycling – The County and the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority continued the evaluation of proposals from vendors for ash recycling. An interview was held with one proposer, and other(s) were scheduled for December.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6439 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	www.MCRecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Current Recycling Rate in Montgomery County	36.5%
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY01 tons received- 59,643
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,540
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	199,258
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NEA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility